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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: March 4, 2005

To: **Commissioner**
United States Patent and Trademark Office

FROM: Kelly J. McCrystle
Patents and Trademarks
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MESSAGE:

U.S. Application No.: 10/729,541

Filed: December 5, 2003

Title: Articulating Suturing Device and Method

Abbott Ref: 6771.US.C1

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above is the following:

1. Transmittal Letter (1 page)
2. PTO Form SB/O8A (2 pages, in duplicate)
3. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages, in duplicate)

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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Andreas, Bernard et al

Serial No.: 10/729,541

Filed: December 5, 2003

For: Articulating Suturing Device and Method

Attorney Docket No.: 6771.US.C1

Art Unit: Unassigned

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Kelly J. McCrystle

3/4/05
Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above are the following:

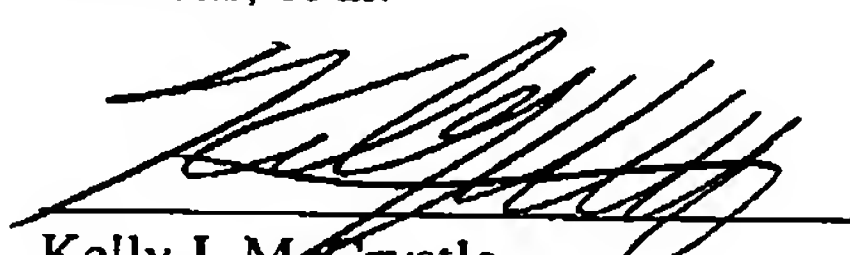
1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages, in duplicate)
2. Form PTO-1449 (2 pages, in duplicate)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Telephone: (650) 474-3326
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted,
Andreas, et al.


Kelly J. McCrystle
Registration No. 46,257
Attorney for Applicants

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3/4/05
Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

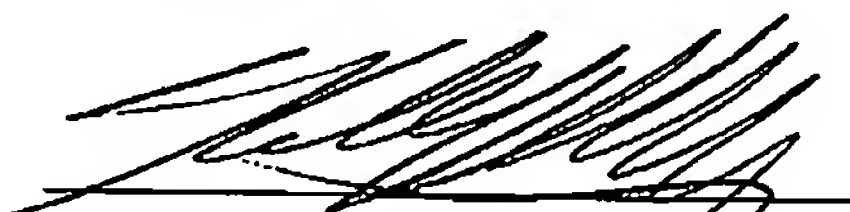
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. Copies of the listed documents are attached if necessary as specified under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge or credit any over payments to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. The Commissioner also is authorized to charge our Deposit Account any additional fees (or credit any over payments) that may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in association with this communication for which full payment has not been tendered. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,
Andreas, et al.


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